

A short Account  
Of the **S J E G E**  
O F



**B A N T A M:**

And its Surrender to the Rebels, who were Affisted by the **D U T C H**, and their Fleet, in the *East-Indies*. In a Letter from an *English* Factor to a Merchant of **L O N D O N**.

S I R,

**G**reat was our Expectation upon the Success of our late Embassadour, *Kaia Nebbe*, his Negotiation into *England*, of settling a Commerce with that Kingdom, which as it is of all Nations in most esteem with, so is it most earnestly desired by the *Bantamites*, who have a natural kindness for the *English* in these Parts.

Whilst we were big with these Joys, a suddain and unexpected Storm happen'd, which blasted all our hopes in an Instant, and unmercifully expos'd us, not onely to the fury of a Domestick Enemy, but the Spoil and Rapine of a Forreign Foe.

Sir, It would be but a needless trouble to tell you the true Correspondence, and real Friendship that has been preserv'd between the *English* and the *Bantamites*. These allowing them a Factory, and a Place of Residence for their Consult within the Walls of the Town of *Bantam*, which is the Capital City of *Java*, whereas all other Forreigners, as the *Bengallians*, *Cusarats*, *Malayans*, *Abyssins*, *Chineses*, *Portugals* and *Hollanders*, are placed without the Town, nay, the very *Indians* themselves, who come from the Borders of the Country, have their places allotted them without the City, where they have their Markets for their particular Commodities, the Grand *Bazar*, or Exchange, being in the East part of the Town, wholly employed in the *English* Factory, and for stowing up the Commodities they Trade in.

Since the last Massacre of the Dutch in this Nation, they have not dealt so freely amongst us, but keep within their own Plantation at *Batavia*, which is some 12 Leagues from *Bantam*.

The *Portugals* that deal at *Bantam*, live out of Town in the same Quarter with the *Chineses*. They drive here a great Trade in Pepper, Nutmegs, Cloves, Mace, Sandal-wood, Cubebs, long Pepper, and other Commodities that are sent them from *Malacca*; for the greater part of them are Factors, and Commissioners of the Governour of *Malacca*, and the Arch-bishop of *Goa*.

The *English*, besides their liberty of Residing within the Town of *Bantam*, have free Access through the whole Country of *Java Major*, which is a vast and spacious Isle, for, from East to West it stretches 150 Leagues, or of Miles 450, and from North to South 90 Leagues, which is 270 Miles English.

The

The *Dutch*, who joined with the Rebels in this unnatural Incurſion, to Invade our City with the more eaſe, we being ſo unprovided of Ammunition, and all other Conveniences, to make any conſiderable Reſiſtance. In which they had found much more Difficulty, and it is probable, we might have held out as yet, had we received that Re-cruit of Arms and Ammunition, as was every Day expected by the Embaſſador from *England*, who is not yet come.

And this (*Sir*) leads me to the Tragical part of my Letter, which muſt needs create pity in you, when you conſider in what Conſternation this ſuddain change hath left us, not able to call our Lives or Fortunes our own, nor can we yet tell whether we are Freeman or Slaves.

During the Abſence of our Embaſſador in *England*, a Match was propoſed by the King of *Bantam*, between his Eldeſt Son *Zerombia Zebbe*, and the Daughter of the King of *Mitram*.

This was a Match well propoſed, and had been Fortunate for the *Engliſh*, had it taken its wiſhed ſucceſs, the King of *Mitram* being as it were Emperour of *Java Major*.

The Young Prince going upon this Expedition, fell in Love, by the way, with the King of *Tubans* Daughter, which, next to *Bantam*, is the chiefeſt Town in *Java*.

The Prince having forgot all other Obligations, it was not long ere the Marriage was unhappily Solemniz'd, tho' it was much inferior to what had been formerly propoſed. The King of *Tubans* Territories being but ſmall, and he himſelf a Tributary to the King of *Bantam*. Beſides, the King of *Tuban* having Four Wives, Six Sons, and Two Daughters, beſides Natural-Children, and Concubines innumerable, the Princeſs, which was the former Match propoſed, being ſole Heireſs to the Emperour.

This ſo Incenſed the King of *Bantam*, that he Excludes his Son out of the Kingdom, making his Younger Son, by a Second Wife, his Heir.

The Prince no leſs Incenſed on the other hand, Marched with a ſmall Army of the *Tubanites* towards *Batavia*, deſiring Aid of the *Dutch*, who were forward enough to Aſſiſt him, as well for the old Grudg that continu'd between them, and the *Bantamites*, as to Enlarge their Dominions upon any opportunity that preſents.

There being a *Dutch* Fleet at *Batavia*, they took Shipping, and lay before *Bantam*, on the 23d of *November*, playing with their Great Canon upon the Town, during which time the King made ſeveral proffers of Accommodation, but nothing wou'd be accepted.

At laſt all our Ammunition being ſpent, and our Walls Battered down, on the 2d of *December* they Entered the Town, ſeizing upon the *Bazar*, and all places of Factory and Store, Killing and Plundering all before them.

The King, with the chief Officers of the City, keeps his Army in the Field, where, by Daily Recruits which flock to him from all parts, he hopes, yet, in ſome time, to Recover his former Loſſes.

The *Hollanders* have poſſeſſed themſelves of the Port, and the Rebels of the City. We are every Day Threatn'd to be turn'd out, and a *Dutch* Factory and Conſul Eſtabliſh'd in our place. All the hopes we have, is, of the Return of the Embaſſadour, and the Succeſs of the Kings Army, of which we hope to give you a better Account by the next.